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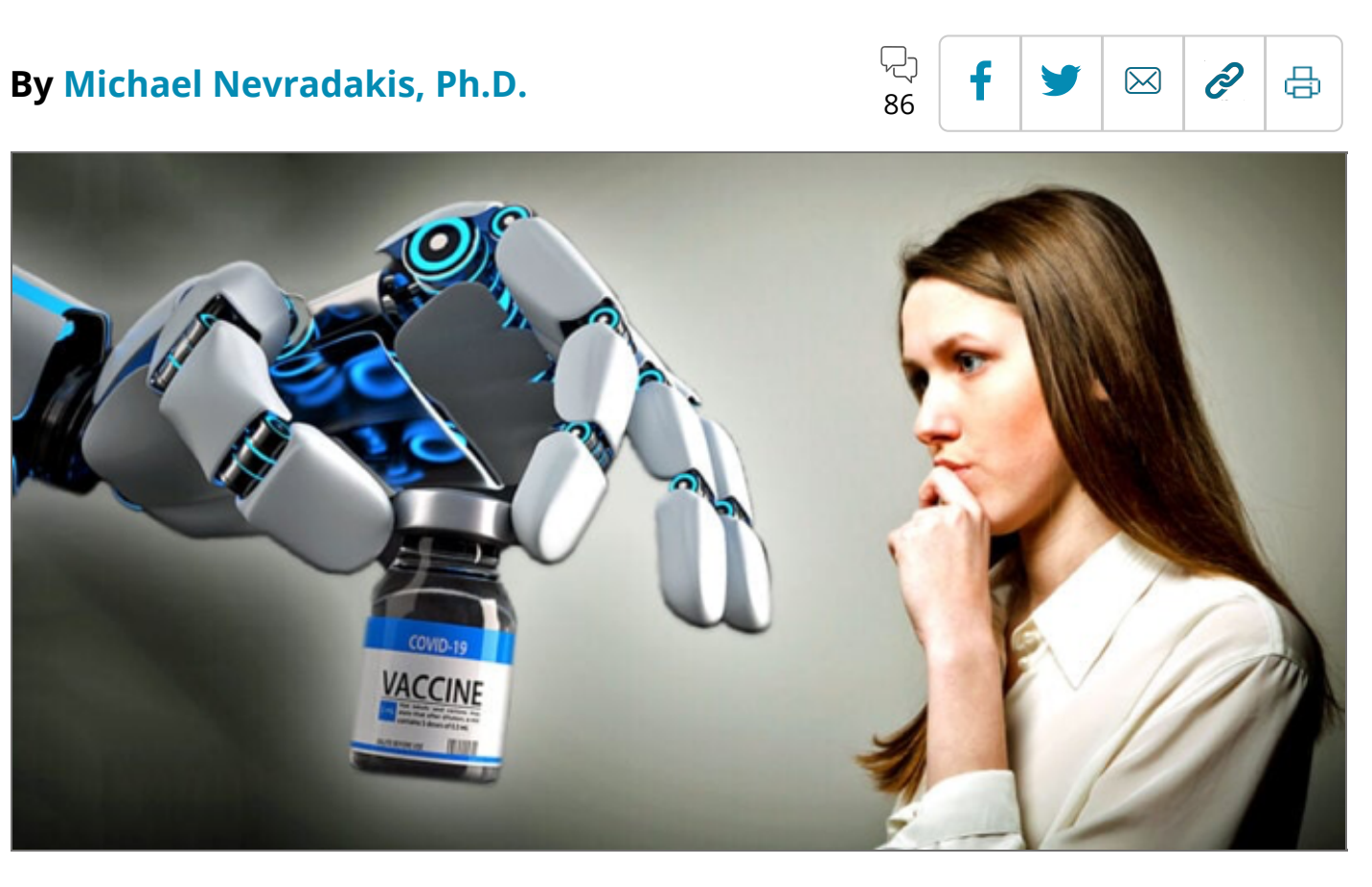
03/21/24 • BIG TECH › NEWS

'Whole Thing Smacks of a Brave New World': New AI Tool Predicts Vaccine Hesitancy

According to the University of Cincinnati researchers who developed the tool, "Despite COVID-19 vaccine mandates, many chose to forgo vaccination, raising questions about the psychology underlying how judgment affects these choices."

By Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D.

86



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A team of researchers has developed a "powerful new tool in artificial intelligence" (AI) that can predict if someone is or isn't likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

According to the University of Cincinnati, the new AI tool "uses a small set of data from demographics and personal judgments such as aversion to risk or loss" to identify "reward and aversion judgment" patterns in humans that may help explain one's willingness to get vaccinated.

The researchers presented their findings in a study published Tuesday in the Journal of Medical Internet Research Public Health and Surveillance.

The study's findings "could have broad applications for predicting mental health and result in more effective public health campaigns," the university said.

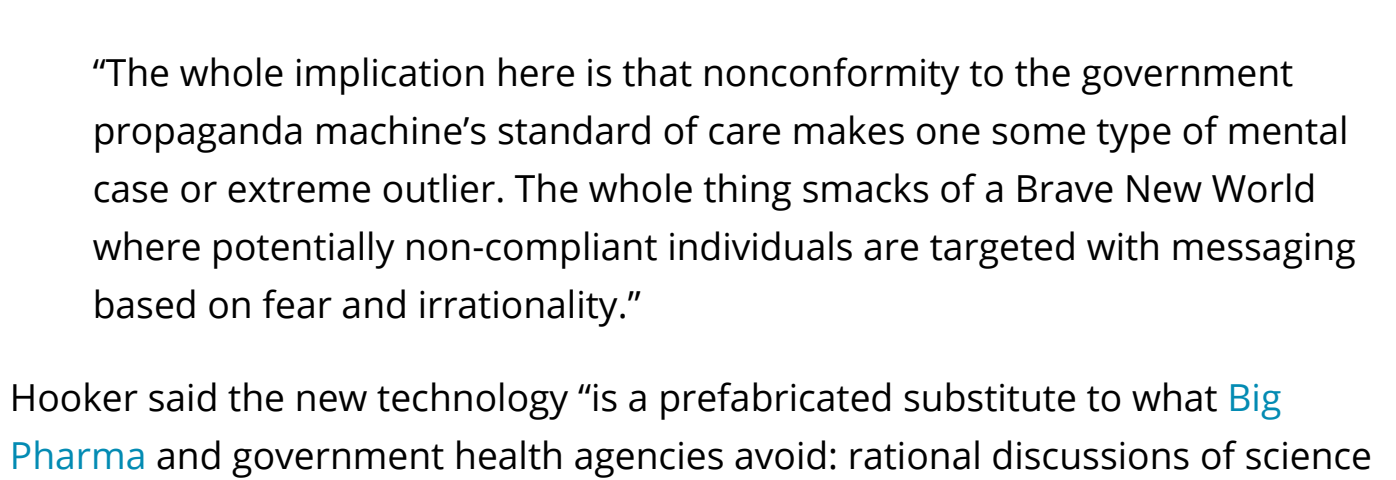
According to the study, "Despite COVID-19 vaccine mandates, many chose to forgo vaccination, raising questions about the psychology underlying how judgment affects these choices."

The researchers claim their findings "demonstrate the underlying importance of judgment variables for vaccine choice and uptake, suggesting that vaccine education and messaging might target varying judgment profiles to improve uptake."

But critics like Brian Hooker, Ph.D., chief scientific officer for Children's Health Defense, said that the new technology implies that those who question vaccines have mental health problems:

> "The whole implication here is that nonconformity to the government propaganda machine's standard of care makes one some type of mental case or extreme outlier. The whole thing smacks of a Brave New World where potentially non-compliant individuals are targeted with messaging based on fear and irrationality."

Hooker said the new technology "is a prefabricated substitute to what Big Pharma and government health agencies avoid: rational discussions of science and medicine that might expose the truth about vaccine adverse events."



"The Wuhan Cover-Up" by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
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Using AI to target the 'vaccine-hesitant'?

Nicole Vike, Ph.D., senior research associate at the University of Cincinnati's College of Engineering and Applied Science, was the paper's lead author.

"COVID-19 is unlikely to be the last pandemic we see in the next decades," Vike said. "Having a new form of AI for prediction in public health provides a valuable tool that could help prepare hospitals for predicting vaccination rates and consequential infection rates."

The study's authors said the technology also could be used to "aid vaccine rollouts and health care preparedness by providing location-specific details" — in other words, identifying geographic areas that may experience low vaccination and high hospitalization rates, according to the study.

Critics questioned the study's claims and also said they were worried about the potential adverse uses of this technology.

"The main problem with research like this is the underlying premise: Vaccine hesitancy must be accounted for in terms of the (aberrant) psychology of the subjects and not with reference to the efficacy and safety of the vaccine(s) in question," said Michael Rectenwald, Ph.D., author of "Google Archipelago: The Digital Gulag and the Simulation of Freedom."

As a result, Rectenwald said, it's implied that "if people are vaccine-hesitant, the fault is endemic to them rather than to the vaccine itself. From this premise, the research seeks to justify vaccination as normal by linking anomalous mental and psychological characteristics with vaccine hesitancy."

This may lead to individuals being targeted, Rectenwald said:

> "Using AI to predict vaccine hesitancy on these terms might include mobilizing AI programs to target and even identify individually vaccine-hesitant subjects. We might also expect AI programs that seek to overcome vaccine hesitancy with attempts to 'reprogram' said defective subjects.
>
> "At the very least, identifying, targeting and re-educating vaccine hesitant subjects is in the offing."

Scott C. Tips, president of the National Health Federation, said the new technology poses privacy concerns.

Tips said:

> "It is nobody's business but that of the individual as to whether he or she wants to be vaccinated. Why does anyone need to predict health decisions? 'Predictive' AI on this issue is nothing but a solution looking for a problem. There is no problem here. In fact, we should be glad that there are people who do not want to be vaccinated."

Similarly, Dr. Kat Lindley, president of the Global Health Project and director of the Global COVID Summit, agreed. "There are many reasons why someone may be vaccine-hesitant, and relying on a program, no matter how intelligent, to predict the outcome, I fear will underestimate the human element and individual experiences."

Critics also question claims about the technology's effectiveness. "AI is only as good as the programmer and the parameters it was given, which also includes the biases with which it was created," Lindley said.

Tim Hinchliffe, editor of The Sociable, said, "We've seen how ChatGPT spits out nonsense and we've seen the diversity disaster that was Google Gemini, so it'd be best to approach the results with caution. And when there is AI-human teaming, the results can still be biased."

"'Garbage in, garbage out' applies equally to AI-driven decisions and results every bit as much as it applies to any other decisions or results made by humans and 'dumb' computers," Tips said. "If the AI is searching through mainstream-only files and data for its answers, then it will come up with incorrect and biased results."

RFK Jr. and Brian Hooker's *New* Book: "Vax-Unvax"
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'Who will be the next targets of this attitude-predicting apparatus?'

Other experts suggested governments could abuse the technology and weaponize it against the public.

"It's indicative of the state of medicine and the priorities of our federal government to see more research being done on how to increase uptake of whatever product they're defining as a vaccine, than to do the safety studies the public has been crying out for," said Valerie Borek, associate director and lead policy analyst for Stand For Health Freedom.

"This study fits the decades-long approach to using psychology and our subconscious to push products and agendas," she said. "There is already technology that can assess biometric data such as heart rate, temperature and eye movements, combined with audio and location information."

Citing an example, Borek said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "already has a record of using cellphone data for public health surveillance."

Borek added:

> "The government has too much data to comb through, so the use of AI is inevitable for public health surveillance. How long before the devices we voluntarily wear and carry are used for AI predictions of our health choices?
>
> "Will those predictions lead to any governmental interventions? We need to ask these questions of our lawmakers and do what we can to minimize our digital footprint."

According to Hinchliffe:

> "If 'AI can predict people's attitudes,' then predicting so-called vaccine hesitancy would be just the start. What comes next? Predicting who is a climate denier? What about predicting people's attitudes toward presidential candidates and who they'll likely vote for? Who needs elections when the AI already knows who will win?
>
> "What happens when the re-education and propaganda schemes don't work? Will data on predicting people's attitudes go to governments so they can crack down on dissidents? Who will be the next targets of this attitude-predicting apparatus? My guess would be people who are 'hesitant' about the climate change narrative."

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Study claims AI can 'make accurate predictions about human attitudes'

According to the University of Cincinnati's announcement, the development of the new AI tool was based on a survey conducted in the U.S. in 2021, involving a representative sample of 3,476 adults. Respondents "provided information such as where they live, income, highest education level completed, ethnicity and access to the internet."

Participants were asked if they had received a COVID-19 vaccine, with approximately 73% of respondents reporting they were vaccinated, "slightly more than the 70% of the nation's population that had been vaccinated in 2021," according to the study.

They were then "asked to rate how much they liked or disliked a randomly sequenced set of 48 pictures on a seven-point scale of 3 to -3," to quantify "mathematical features of people's judgments as they observe mildly emotional stimuli."

"The judgment variables and demographics were compared between respondents who were vaccinated and those who were not. Three machine learning approaches were used to test how well the respondents' judgment, demographics and attitudes toward COVID-19 precautions predicted whether they would get the vaccine," the announcement states.

According to the study, "a small set of demographic variables and 15 judgment variables" were identified, which "predict vaccine uptake with moderate to high accuracy and high precision."

The announcement says these findings show "that artificial intelligence can make accurate predictions about human attitudes with surprisingly little data or reliance on expensive and time-consuming clinical assessments."

The same announcement quoted Aggelos Katsaggelos, Ph.D., endowed professor of electrical engineering and computer science at Northwestern University, who claimed "The study is anti-big-data" because the new technology "can work very simply" and without the need for "super-computation."

"It's inexpensive and can be applied with anyone who has a smartphone. We refer to it as computational cognition AI. It is likely you will be seeing other applications regarding alterations in judgment in the very near future," Katsaggelos said.

Lindley disagreed. She told The Defender "Calling this anti-big-data is an oxymoron, because to be able to claim a high level of accuracy, the program would have to encompass a high level of understanding of the hesitancy itself."

"The problem with this AI initiative is the population-wide approach, which disregards any individual concerns and experiences," Lindley said. "If I have learned anything practicing medicine these past 20 years, it is that the human element matters and it's unpredictable by its nature."

'Tip of the iceberg': AI may also be used for rapid development of vaccines

Other AI-related technologies in the healthcare realm have recently been introduced.

At the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in January, Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla praised the role of AI in the development of Paxlovid, a prescription oral medication marketed as a treatment for COVID-19.

"It was developed in four months," Bourla said, whereas development of such a drug "usually takes four years." He said AI helped significantly reduce the amount of time needed for the "drug discovery" process, where you "really synthesize millions of molecules and then you try to discover within them, which one works."

Bourla credited this breakthrough with saving "millions of lives" and predicted more such developments in the future. "Our job is to make breakthroughs that change patients' lives," Bourla said. "With AI, I can do it faster and I can do it better."

"I truly believe that we are about to enter a scientific renaissance in life sciences because of this coexistence of advancements in technology and biology," Bourla added. "AI is a very powerful tool. In the hands of bad people [it] can do bad things for the world, but in the hands of good people [it] can do great things for the world."

During the same WEF panel discussion, Jeremy Hunt, the United Kingdom's chancellor of the Exchequer, said AI could lead to the rapid development and deployment of vaccines.

"When we have the next pandemic, we don't want to have to wait a year before we get the vaccine," he said. "If AI can shrink the time it takes to get that vaccine to a month, then that is a massive step forward for humanity."

A WEF project, first announced in 2019, is funding research on the use of "synthetic" AI-generated "patients" and "synthetic" clinical trial data.

Concerns over AI's predictive ability have led to some action from lawmakers around the world. On March 13, the European Parliament passed the Artificial Intelligence Act, which contains several restrictions and prohibitions on the use of AI in various contexts.

According to Greece's Business Daily, "Emotion recognition in the workplace and schools, social scoring, predictive policing (when it is based solely on profiling a person or assessing their characteristics), and AI that manipulates human behaviour or exploits people's vulnerabilities" are forbidden by this legislation.

Yet, for Hinchliffe, "Using AI to predict people's attitudes towards vaccines and vaccine hesitancy is just the tip of the iceberg," as AI technology can then "be used to predict attitudes on just about anything."

"If successful, predicting people's attitudes will lead to predicting their behavior. Predicting their behavior means knowing more about them than they know about themselves," he said. "Once humans are 'hackable,' then all bets are off: They can be manipulated and controlled in the most nefarious of various ways."

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Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D.
Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D., based in Athens, Greece, is a senior reporter for The Defender and part of the rotation of hosts for CHD.TV's "Good Morning CHD."

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♡ 10 • Share Best Newest Oldest

Caroline Cary Davidson
a month ago
but wait a minute... according to the vax pushers, WE (unvaxxed) should all be dead, right?? our unvaxxed kids should be massive disease vectors. but we AREN'T and they aren't and no metric beyond outright LIES can claim that we are. these brainwashed folks have literally ZERO argument to paint us as some kind of dangerous loonies. apparently the grant money is still flowing freely for this garbage anti-science.
46 0 Reply

Ricky Ricardo → Caroline Cary Davidson
a month ago
People around me; people I know, are starting to get sick - frequently! Of course, I can't tell them why I think that is...they don't want to hear it.
31 0 Reply

tag → Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
I have a friend that i haven't talked to in 6 months. Called her yesterday just to catch up. She and her husband both over the winter have both had heart issues. I don't know for sure if they were vaxed but as they have 2 daughters that are nurses, would bet they were.
13 0 Reply

Mary Matthews → tag
a month ago
I know plenty of nurses who aren't and won't!
Retired RN
15 0 Reply

THOB → Mary Matthews
a month ago
Good for them. An continuing good health.
5 0 Reply

LinUK → Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
Same here in England, and they still haven't worked it out.
7 0 Reply

Ricky Ricardo → LinUK
a month ago
"Normalcy Bias" and "Mass Formation"!
2 0 Reply

Marie blaszak → Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
It's denial and also cuz the shot does something to their brain where they can't listen to reason or understand the truth. I read it's a chemical lobotomy to the brain.
5 1 Reply

Sandburners → Marie blaszak
a month ago
I got mRNA twice before I wised up & realized how harmful the vax is. If it gave me a chemical lobotomy, how was I able to make the decision to get no more of it? The vax is dangerous but that's a bit extreme.
5 0 Reply

Nod → Marie blaszak
a month ago
IP 36 deletion syndrome , first side effect in the first study that Pfizer tried to hide for 55 years.
2 0 Reply

BH387 → Nod
a month ago
I thought they wanted to hide the so-called study for 75 years
4 0 Reply

BraveNewWhirled
a month ago
I have never been, am not now, nor do I expect to ever be "vaccine hesitant". I simply do not trust government. Especially when it teams up with big corporations that buy themselves exemption from liability for the harm their products cause. Did they program their AI with this? Probably not.

If they want me to trust them they must first remove their exemption from liability and make a product that works and doesn't hurt people. Then I might become "hesitant". From there it's a simple matter for them to prove they actually have viable products that work, then leave it to my own decision-making process which may or may not go the way they want it to. But it probably won't.
36 0 Reply

1555 → BraveNewWhirled
a month ago
They want to trust something manufacturer (Pfizer) asked to hide evidence about for 75 years. Case closed.
10 0 Reply

Siglund → 1555
a month ago
I think the FDA asked on behalf of Pfizer. Kickbacks, you know...
7 0 Reply

rosebud → 1555
a month ago
And don't forget that Pfizer has been the target of more fines for corporate fraud and other crimes than any other corporation! Yet we're supposed to "trust" them?
1 0 Reply

Jill Herendeen → BraveNewWhirled
a month ago
It definitely won't, because it CAN'T. The whole of Germ Theory upon which vaccination rests is fraud. If, as Stefan Lanka has shown, a measles virus has never been scientifically proven to exist, then what exactly is in the measles vaccine?
6 0 Reply

Marie blaszak → Jill Herendeen
a month ago
Peanut oil and that's why kids are allergic to peanuts!!!
3 0 Reply

Rbrtll
a month ago
Absolute pure evil. AI is intended to eliminate not just any dissent, but also any possibility of finding 'non-approved' information. It MUST be stopped!!!
35 0 Reply

One Day Closer
a month ago
I wish they would stop using "vaccine hesitancy". I am not hesitant. I am refusing them.
35 0 Reply

BTeboe → One Day Closer
a month ago
Exactly. Nothing hesitant about it. It's a hard NO.
28 0 Reply

Siglund → One Day Closer
a month ago
It's a propaganda phrase. It was meant to cause people who heard it the first time say: "Oh, well, I don't want to be that way!"

Division and conquest via "nudging".

I despise these criminals.
10 0 Reply

boxerdoglover
a month ago
I find it hilarious that those of us who refuse a death shot are mental, when it is absolutely the opposite. And the hypocrisy of "it's my body, I can kill my child in the womb," and it's celebrated, but if I don't want a chemical in my body that can kill or maim, all of a sudden it's not by body. We live in a culture of death now. Every day I see more and more why Jesus Christ will come back in judgement…
25 0 Reply

tag → boxerdoglover
a month ago
Their mentality should be the poster child for not mental illness, but for completely psychotic and insane. If I'm mental, must mean my IQ is like 1000!
4 0 Reply

Stuff Happens
a month ago
First of all they don't need a fancy tool. Just ask me and I'll tell them where they can stick it. Second if they think AI is going to change my mind they are dumb as a rock.
25 0 Reply

Seabreezes1
a month ago
Yeah, that I'm an **anaphylactic** whose parents and godmother were killed by medical arrogance (ages 49, 53 and 72) and who was almost killed myself by doctors, and who have 6 cousins who died young just weeks after getting their boosters (and others disabled within hours of the first or second shot) doesn't have anything to do with my 'hesitancy,' right? All those deaths and hospitalizations were a figment of my imagination, right?
25 0 Reply

tag → Seabreezes1
a month ago
Yes. Medical madness murder my parents also.
6 0 Reply

Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
They can stick their "vaccine uptake" up their evil, greedy a$$e$! I asked A.I. how many people have died from the covid "vaccine". Here's the BS, scripted answer:

"There is no evidence to suggest that any significant number of people have died specifically due to the COVID-19 vaccines. The benefits of getting vaccinated far outweigh the risks. Side effects are typically mild and temporary. If you have specific concerns about the vaccine, I recommend consulting a healthcare professional."
It's very scary to think that one day soon, A.I. will control this entire civilization! Do not doubt those words for a second! Why would anyone with a brain, trust A.I. to make **any** decision for them!!!
23 0 Reply

Sandburners → Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
Consult a healthcare professional? They've done all they can to stifle any who would dare criticize their precious poison! Just shows how very aware they are of all the risks. They're destroying all trust between docs & their patients.
8 0 Reply

JulieB → Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
Lies, lies, damn lies, & statistics.
7 0 Reply

1555 → Ricky Ricardo
a month ago
Remember, AI is NOT God, and it can be destroyed. Arms and hammer, a good start.
4 0 Reply

ogam5
a month ago edited
.....NO big ***secret*** as to **my** EXPRESS refusal; at SOME point these tone-deaf **MORONS** will STOP trying (but WHEN that is, is HARD to say for sure.....)
21 0 Reply

Rob DF → ogam5
a month ago
You need AI to determine if someone doesn't want to take a vaccine? Hahahahaha!
20 0 Reply

Caroline Cary Davidson → ogam5
a month ago
like they say, easy to believe a thing when your paycheck depends on it ;)
13 0 Reply

pcarsphyxexpert
a month ago
It's too bad vaccines not only don't work, they're dangerous and lethal.

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Although vaccines do work to enrich Big pharma via vaccines sales and ongoing pharmaceutical sales after vaccine injury.

Most orthodox doctors are drug pushers who specialise in poisoning children, but other than that, they're really nice people.

👍 20 👎 0 Reply

1555 ➔ pcarsphyxexpert

a month ago

Anthem Blue Cross Chart in a letter to docs showed those who have 70% vaxxed get $ 125 per person in first round. Double for new patients in the second round, when it became available. Ever gonna trust an MD? Gonna be hard.

👍 10 👎 0 Reply

GS

a month ago

Analyze this: G F Yourselves.

👍 17 👎 0 Reply

Someone

a month ago

Here's a tip for these nincompoops: take the money you are spending on this research and spend it on making a product that actually does all the things you claim.

Or even better: give up on this one already and use those funds to do vaccinated/unvaccinated studies on the childhood schedule that have been needed for decades now.

👍 16 👎 0 Reply

Ektor

a month ago

Warning to all A/I idiots: I am an anti-vaxxer forever. Case closed.

👍 16 👎 0 Reply

Siglund ➔ Ektor

a month ago

Nah, you're just a tad "hesitant". We'll make you an offer you can't refuse! You know... Like a hamburger and a beer, a chance to win a full-ride scholarship, maybe a half hour with a prostitute. If those don't work, we can take your source of income, prohibit you from traveling, and refuse to treat your medical problems. Stop being so "hesitant" all the time! Vaccines are "safe" and "effective"! (Not like bioweapons, which just happen to be deadly...)

👍 5 👎 0 Reply

Patpat

a month ago

Minority Report anyone? Sounds like "vaccine hesitancy" will be handled by the "precrime" unit.

👍 15 👎 0 Reply

Siglund

a month ago

I am not "hesitant".

I AM DEFIANT!

(And don't try talking me into green eggs 'n' ham, either...)

👍 11 👎 0 Reply

BarbaraCharis

a month ago

A major problem...aluminum and mercury cause brain damage...Most children in the United States have had these substances injected into their bloodstream many times over for almost 40 years with the help of people in Congress who were paid off by vaccine manufacturers to pass the NO LIABILITY for vaccine injuries or deaths. This was done in The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. This Act has created a dumbing down of the children in America. Lobbyists for the vaccine industry (and others have done the same) gave money and benefits to Congress in order to pass beneficial acts to keep it in business This is CRIMINAL. Congress harmed most Americans with this Act.. it lowered Americans mentally and physically. It gave profit-seeking vaccine producers the opportunity to increase the number of deadly shots to every public school student from 11 to 73. Injecting toxic matter directly into the bloodstream has harmed the immune system, the body and the brain of every recipient. Congress could not have commited a more criminal act, harming all Americans. The end result: Monies amassed from these deadly shots has enriched a very corrupt industry, which is trying to force every American to adhere to its demands. Where is JUSTICE?

👍 11 👎 0 Reply

Beatrice ➔ BarbaraCharis

a month ago

Barb, I think they are going to use the 'shots' as a means to inject other unknown substances into citizens. The vaccines will be the easiest and most comprehensive route because of vaccines schedules and the fact that so many still believe they are necessary to avoid getting sick. As you know the Nazis used medicine as a means to ' capture' people because just about everyone at some point will visit a doctor. This is why GWB installed HIPAA. It had nothing to do with protecting patient's privacy but it had everything to do with collecting data on patients by forcing them to show a picture ID that is scanned by the medical office-all in the name of protecting your medical privacy. Malarkey!

👍 1 👎 0 Reply

Don2665

a month ago

Vaccine hesitancy? What does that even mean? When the definition of the word “vaccine” is changed
from a preventative to merely a mitigator of symptoms, what is a person to think.

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